



Frank W. Ganger

MAY 21, 2013



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Frank W. Ganger Jr.

Frank W. Ganger, Jr., age 69, of Palm Coast, Florida passed away on Tuesday, May 14, 2013 after a long illness. He was born in Queens, New York, on December 23, 1943 to Frank Sr. and Madeline Dominger Ganger. He was raised in New Jersey and Illinois. He received a degree in Technical and Vocational Education from Murray State University in 1977. He spent his summers gold mining on the Fortymile River in Alaska and moved to Alaska in 1980, living in remote Eskimo villages for several years, before moving to Anchorage. He moved to Lake Bluff, Illinois in 2001 and then to Palm Coast in 2006 when he retired.

Frank loved teaching and started teaching in 1962. He was told he was the first male kindergarten teacher in Florida. He taught in Miami, Kentucky, Chicago, the Lower Yukon in Alaska, and Waukegan, Illinois. He had Masters degrees in Special Education and Counseling from the University of Alaska Anchorage, and was an adjunct professor there. He specialized in children and teens with behavior problems and became an expert on gangs. He had his own counseling practice in Anchorage and worked with mental health and substance abuse agencies. He also was a journeyman mechanic and traveled to many countries of the world teaching heavy equipment repair.

Frank had a lifelong passion for motorcycles and called them “his therapist”. He rode more than 1 million miles on many different cycles. He loved long trips at high speeds and has ridden in many different countries. In 1957, he performed his top 40 hit “Class Cutter” on Dick Clark’s America Bandstand and he made the Guinness Book of World Records for watermelon seed spitting.

Frank leaves behind his wife, Bonnie Fuller Ganger; his daughter and son-in-law Marilyn “Marnie” and Brad Schultz of Oregon, WI; his daughter Cecilia Ganger of Palm Coast; his



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grandchildren Haley, Jacob, Michael, and Cody; his brother Jeffrey Chamberlain of Palm Coast; his former wife Marilyn J. Ganger of Oregon, WI, and many friends.

Memorial services will be held at a later date.

All arrangements are under the direction of Heritage Funeral & Cremation Service, Port Orange, FL



Michael posted:

My name is Michael Williams. I graduated from Bartlett High on Anchorage in 1995. I wasn't a burn resident of Alaska I was there due to my mother being in the military. I was there only a couple of months before I started my junior year in high school. I made a real bone head decision and mistake to take a toy gun to school that made electronic sounds of cocking and shooting. I never pointed it at, or threatened anyone with it in any kind of way. None the less someone seen it, reported it, and I was eventually expelled... Ofcourse my mother was lost in making decisions ass of what to do with my "Dumb teen self"... I call myself a "Dumb teen" today because I knew it was wrong, but I honestly and truly didn't intend to cause any trouble or harm to anyone by bringing this thing to school. As a matter of fact, it wasn't even mine. A friend of mine just happened to leave it at my house over the weekend and I was bringing it to him. The origin of the toy was part of my friend's Holloween costume. So to make a long story short, Me Ganger was running a program for troubled youth hat that time called "CRC" or Conflict Resolution Component. He heard my story, and believed and helped me gain have in the ASD to allow me to attend school at another location separate from everyday students at the main schools. Also in return for Mr.Ganger's efforts he asked me to join him in going to elementary and middle schools around the city and talking to the younger kids about the consequences of making bad choices and the reward of making good ones. He also picked me up every morning from home and dropped me off every day. He bought me lunch most days and even took me to his house a couple times and paid me for helping him do a little work that was less strenuous to a younger body. He always talked to me about being a young man and an older man one day. He insisted o call him Frank. I was uncomfortable at first, but he insisted so eventually it stuck. But today I must address him as Mr.Ganger due to the respect I have for him. I tried finding Me.Ganger years ago when social media and Google started making it easier to search for lost friends and family. I wanted to thank him and tell him that it as because of his kindness and willingness to believe in and help me that I found myself doing some of the same type of work at a young age. I have and will Never forget Mr.Ganger and what he did for me. I know there are plenty more people from around the world that could offer up a story that would tell you how wonderful of a person he was. So for us all I want to offer me deepest condolences to your family and Thank you for sharing your Angel with me.... He will be forever missed around the world. R.I.P. Mr.Ganger

September 12 at 9:08 AM



Michael September 12 at 9:11 AM

Our little tour of the schools and presentations to the younger students became pretty popular amongst the staff at these schools and Mr.Ganger shared these praises with me. Everything he did was great



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Frank by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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